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STATE COUNCIL OF CIVIL DEFENSE
STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR NO. 7

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOY SCOUTS IN CIVIL DEFENSE

1. The Boy Scouts of America is one of the country's leading youth organizations with an enviable record of public service.

2. Bulletin No. 2, 1950 Series, September 11, 1950, from the Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America, sets forth the nationally approved policy on the role of the Boy Scouts in civil defense. This statement reads, in part:

"The Boy Scouts of America, at the request of state and local Civil Defense organizations, will cooperate to the extent of its ability in the following Civil Defense services:

1. Assisting in organizing, training and participating in emergency Civil Defense messenger services.
2. Assisting the American Red Cross in its program of first aid training and cooperating with such local organizations as may be responsible for provision of food, clothing, and shelter during emergency periods.
3. Assisting rescue units and ambulance services when requested.

In addition, the Boy Scouts of America, to the extent of its ability when requested by state and local Civil Defense agencies, will:

4. Train its members and make them available to work with Civil Defense leaders in self protection, organized self-protection programs, and auxiliary programs such as aircraft observer programs.
5. Make available and operate Boy Scout owned camps for evacuees and to provide activities in such centers.
6. Train and make available its members for operation of other evacuation camps.
7. Make available its organized group of men and boys and resources for participation in Civil Defense activities as needed.

The foregoing statement provides the broad framework within which the Boy Scouts of America are qualified to participate in the development and operation of Civil Defense programs. Specific tasks which the Boy Scouts of America can undertake in planning for Civil Defense or in implementation of those plans, may be developed within this framework."

3. The State Council of Civil Defense recommends that, where it has not already been done, County Directors of Civil Defense pass down to the heads of all local civil defense organizations within their respective counties the information presented in Paragraph 2, immediately above.

4. The State Council of Civil Defense further recommends, wherever practical, the enrollment of the Boy Scouts in local civil defense in accordance with the policy outlined in Paragraph 2, above.

Richard Gerstell
Richard Gerstell
Director of Civil Defense

